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Fifty-sixth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 119 (a)
Human rights questions: implementation of human rights instruments

Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Tunisia and Uruguay: draft resolution

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming once more the permanent validity of the principles and norms set forth in the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[2] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[3] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[4] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[5]

Bearing in mind the principles and norms established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

Reiterating that, despite the existence of an already established body of principles and norms, there is a need to make further efforts to improve the situation and to guarantee respect for the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and members of their families,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.
[4] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[5] Resolution 44/25, annex.

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Aware of the situation of migrant workers and members of their families and the marked increase in migratory movements that has occurred, especially in certain parts of the world,

Considering that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[6] all States are urged to guarantee the protection of the human rights of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Underlining the importance of the creation and promotion of conditions to foster greater harmony and tolerance between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the State in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia perpetrated in segments of many societies by individuals or groups against migrant workers,

Recalling its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

Bearing in mind that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, States are invited to consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible time,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the growing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman or degrading treatment directed against migrant workers in different parts of the world;

2. *Welcomes* the signature or ratification of or accession to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by some Member States;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, expresses the hope that it will enter into force at an early date, and notes that, pursuant to article 87 of the Convention, only four ratifications or accessions are still needed for it to enter into force;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the facilities and assistance necessary for the promotion of the Convention through the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

5. *Welcomes* the global campaign for the entry into force of the Convention, and invites the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts with a view to disseminating information on and promoting understanding of the importance of the Convention;

6. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants in relation to the Convention, and encourages her to continue in this endeavour;

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[6] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[7] and requests him to submit an updated report on the status of the Convention to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

8. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its fifty-seventh session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments".

[7] A/56/179.

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Agenda item 119 (a)
Human rights questions: implementation of human rights instruments

Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Equitable geographical distribution of the membership of the human rights treaty bodies

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/76 of 25 April 2001[1] and Economic and Social Council decision 2001/275 of 24 July 2001,

Reaffirming the importance of the goal of universal ratification of the United Nations human rights instruments,

Welcoming the significant increase in the number of ratifications of United Nations human rights instruments, which has especially contributed to their universality,

Reiterating the importance of the effective functioning of treaty bodies established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments for the full and effective implementation of such instruments,

Recalling that, with regard to the election of the members of the human rights treaty bodies, the Commission on Human Rights has already recognized the importance of giving consideration to equitable geographical distribution and gender balance of membership and to the representation of the principal legal systems, and of bearing in mind that the members shall be elected and serve in their personal

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

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capacity and shall be of high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights,

Recalling also that the Commission on Human Rights has already encouraged States parties to United Nations human rights treaties, individually and through meetings of States parties, to consider how to give better effect, inter alia, to the principle of equitable geographical distribution of the membership of treaty bodies,

Expressing concern at the clear regional imbalance in the current composition of the membership of the human rights treaty bodies, with the exception of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which is already applying a quota system in the distribution of its seats by regional groups,

Noting in particular that the current status quo tends to be particularly detrimental for the election of experts from some regional groups,

Convinced that the goal of equitable geographical distribution of the membership of human rights treaty bodies is perfectly compatible and can be fully realized and achieved in harmony with the need to ensure gender balance and the representation of the principal legal systems in those bodies and the high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights of their members,

1. *Decides* to encourage States parties to the United Nations human rights instruments to establish quota distribution systems by geographical region for the election of the members of the treaty bodies;

2. *Calls upon* the States parties to the United Nations human rights instruments to include, as an agenda item in their forthcoming meetings, the issue of the establishment of an equitable geographical distribution of the membership of the respective human rights treaty bodies, based on the recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council and on the present resolution;

3. *Recommends* the introduction of flexible procedures when establishing the quotas for each geographical region in each treaty body, encompassing the following criteria:

(a) Each of the five regional groups established by the General Assembly must be assigned a quota of the membership of each treaty body equivalent to the proportion of the total number of States parties to the instrument that it represents;

(b) There must be provision for periodic revisions that reflect the relative changes in the geographical distribution of States parties;

(c) Automatic periodic revisions should be envisaged in order to avoid amending the text of the instrument when the quotas are revised;

4. *Stresses* that the process needed to achieve the goal of equitable geographical distribution of the membership of human rights treaty bodies can contribute to raising awareness of the importance of gender balance, to the representation of the principal legal systems, and to the principle that the members of the treaty bodies shall be elected and serve in their personal capacity and shall be of high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights.

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Fifty-sixth session
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Agenda item 114
Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Ecuador, Guinea, New Zealand and Yugoslavia: draft resolution

Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 2001/217 of 3 May 2001 and Council decision 2001/298 of 25 July 2001 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Taking note also of the requests regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the annex to the note verbale dated 21 January 1999 from the Permanent Mission of Guinea addressed to the Secretary-General,[1] the note verbale dated 27 April 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[2] the letter dated 3 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General[3] and the letter dated 20 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[4]

1. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from fifty-seven to sixty-one States.

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional members at its resumed organizational session for 2002.

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[1] E/1999/13.
[2] E/2001/52.
[3] E/2001/4.
[4] E/2001/49.

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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Haiti and Suriname: draft resolution

Human rights education

The General Assembly,

Taking into account Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/61 of 25 April 2001 regarding the importance of human rights education as a priority in education policies,

Considering Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/38 of 26 July 2001 on human rights education,

Convinced that human rights education and information contribute to the concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages, which takes into account particularly vulnerable segments of society of all ages, such as children, youth, older persons, indigenous people, minorities, rural and urban poor, migrant workers, refugees, persons with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and disabled persons,

Considering the importance of a human-rights-based approach towards development,

Convinced that human rights education is the key to development,

Taking note with appreciation of the mid-term global evaluation of the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education contained in the report of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights,[1]

Taking into account the recommendations of the mid-term global evaluation of the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004),

[1] A/55/360.

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1. *Invites* all Governments to reaffirm their commitments and obligations to develop national strategies for human rights education which are comprehensive, participatory and effective and which can be embodied in a national plan of action for human rights education as part of their national development plan;

2. *Invites also* the United Nations, intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, to adopt a system-wide approach to the United Nations Decade of Human Rights Education;

3. *Further invites* regional human rights organizations, agencies and networks (of, inter alia, women, the media, trade unions, entrepreneurs and religious denominations) to develop human rights education programmes and human rights training programmes and strategies for wider distribution of material on human rights education in all possible languages;

4. *Encourages* non-governmental organizations to develop and implement strategies to assist Governments to integrate human rights education into levels of education for children, youth and adults and to help monitor those strategies.

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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

South Africa:* draft resolution

Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/103 of 12 December 1996, 52/120 of 12 December 1997, 53/141 of 9 December 1998, 54/172 of 17 December 1999 and 55/110 of 4 December 2000, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/11 of 9 April 1998,[1] and taking note of Commission resolutions 2000/11 of 17 April 2000[2] and 2001/26 of 20 April 2001,[3]

Reaffirming the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

Taking note of the report submitted by the Secretary-General,[4] pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/21 of 23 April 1999,[5] and the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 52/120 and 55/110,[6]

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China.

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[2] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[3] Ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[4] E/CN.4/2001/50.

[5] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[6] A/56/207 and Add.1.

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Recognizing the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and, in this regard, reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

Recalling that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, called upon States to refrain from any unilateral coercive measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights,[7]

Bearing in mind all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,[8] the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[9] the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda, adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996,[10] and their five-year reviews,

Expressing its concern about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures in the field of international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

Deeply concerned that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly and recent major United Nations conferences and contrary to general international law and the Charter of the United Nations, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented with all their negative implications for the social-humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

Bearing in mind all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

Noting the continuing efforts of the Open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Commission on Human Rights, and reaffirming in particular its criteria according to which coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[11]

1. *Urges* all States to refrain from adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, in particular those of a coercive nature with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[12]

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[7] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. I, para. 31.

[8] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[10] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[11] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[12] Resolution 217 A (III).

and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Invites* all States to consider adopting administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial application or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

3. *Rejects* unilateral coercive measures with all their extraterritorial effects as tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, because of their negative effects on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women and the elderly;

4. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are party by revoking such measures at the earliest time possible;

5. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

6. *Urges* the Commission on Human Rights to take fully into account the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures, including the enactment of national laws and their extraterritorial application, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

7. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging her functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in her annual report to the General Assembly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, to continue to collect their views and information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations and to submit an analytical report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, highlighting the practical and preventive measures in this respect;

9. *Decides* to examine the question on a priority basis at its fifty-seventh session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

South Africa:* draft resolution

Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[1] for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

Recalling its resolution 55/109 of 4 December 2000, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/67 of 25 April 2001 on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,[2] and recalling also General Assembly resolution 55/23 of 13 November 2000 on the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] of 8 September 2000 and the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of September 2001, and the great contribution that these events have made in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

Recalling its decision to proclaim the year 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China.

[1] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[3] Resolution 55/2.

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Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion of dialogue on human rights issues,

Reaffirming that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field,

Emphasizing the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation,

Underlining the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all the activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the adoption of resolution 2000/22 of 18 August 2000, entitled "Promotion of dialogue on human rights issues", by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-second session,[4]

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Reaffirms also* that dialogue among cultures and civilizations facilitates the promotion of a culture of tolerance and respect for diversity, and notes in this respect the holding of the Asian Conference on Dialogue among Civilizations in Tehran on 17 February 2001, as well as the first meeting of the group of eminent persons on a dialogue among civilizations, held in Vienna in December 2000;

3. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and of fundamental freedoms for all;

4. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

6. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

7. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-seventh session.

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[4] See E/CN.4/2001/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/46, chap. II, sect. A.

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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

South Africa:* draft resolution

The right to development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, expressing in particular the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom as well as to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling that the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986 confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals, who make up nations,

Recalling also that the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna in 1993, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[1] reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of all fundamental human rights,

Recalling further its resolution 52/187 of 18 December 1997 on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s and noting that the European Union hosted the Third United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries in May 2001,

Recalling its resolution 55/245 of 21 March 2001 on the substantive preparatory process and the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development, and welcoming the fact that Mexico will host the

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China.

[1] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

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International Conference on Financing for Development in Monterrey on 18 to 22 March 2002,

Taking note of the three studies prepared by the independent expert on the right to development and his proposed possible approaches to the operationalization of the right to development,

Taking note also of the report of the open-ended working group established to monitor and review progress made in the promotion and implementation of the right to development[2] and of the Chairperson's conclusions on the issue, as well as the comments submitted thereon,

Welcoming the commitment made by the Heads of State and Government in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] to make the right to development a reality for everyone and their resolve to create an environment — at the national and global levels alike — which is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty, and their commitment to spare no effort to promote good governance and democracy and to strengthen the rule of law as well as respect for all universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development,

Underlining that meeting the objectives of good governance also depends on good governance at the international level and on transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and an open, equitable, rules-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system,

Underlining also the fact that the realization of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

Underlining further the important role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and protection of the right to development,

Recalling the need for coordination and cooperation throughout the United Nations system for a more effective promotion and realization of the right to development,

Noting the outcome of the South Summit of the Group of Seventy-Seven held in Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000 relating to the realization of the right to development,[4]

1. *Welcomes* the holding of two sessions of the Working Group on the Right to Development (18-22 September 2000 and 29 January-2 February 2001), which focused on certain issues, as reflected in the report of the Working Group on the Right to Development,[5] and emphasizes the need to continue deliberations on the right to development in all its aspects, inter alia, on the basis of the report of the Working Group and the Chairperson's conclusions, as well as comments submitted thereon;

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[2] E/CN.4/2001/26.

[3] Resolution 55/2.

[4] See A/55/74, annexes I and II.

[5] E/CN.4/____.

2. *Emphasizes* that on the basis of the text of the Declaration on the Right to Development, several resolutions and declarations adopted by consensus at subsequent international conferences and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, it should now be possible to reach consensus on the full implementation of the right to development;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the reports of the independent expert on the right to development and his additional work on and clarifications of the "development compact" proposal, which contributed to a better understanding of this proposal, while recognizing that further clarification is still needed;

4. *Recognizes* that any development compact would be of a voluntary nature for all parties involved and that its content would be defined on a case-by-case basis and be adapted to the priorities and realities of any country willing to conclude such a compact, which would need the adherence and the support of all international actors involved in its implementation;

5. *Requests* the independent expert to clarify further the proposed development compact, taking into consideration views expressed during the two sessions of the Working Group and in broad consultation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and United Nations funds and programmes, as well as specialized agencies, relevant international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and, in particular, those actors and States interested in developing pilot projects in this regard, keeping in mind:

(a) The ongoing bilateral, regional and multilateral development cooperation programmes;

(b) The formulation of an operational model for a development compact;

(c) The views of concerned international organizations and agencies and relevant regional institutions and actors;

(d) The need to ensure the added value of a development compact to and complementarity with the relevant existing mechanisms;

(e) The need to address and remedy the national and international dimensions of corruption;

(f) The need for country-specific studies both from a national and an international perspective;

6. *Reaffirms* that States have the primary responsibility for the creation of national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development and that they are committed to cooperating with each other to that end;

7. *Also reaffirms* that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and which also places the human person at the centre of development and recognizes that while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

8. *Recognizes* that, in order to realize the right to development, national action and international cooperation must reinforce each other in a manner that goes

beyond the measures for realizing each individual right, and also recognizes that international cooperation for the realization of the right to development should be conducted in a spirit of a partnership, in full respect of all human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated;

9. *Also recognizes* that for many developing countries, the realization of the rights to, inter alia, food, health and education may be important development entry points to the realization of the right to development and that, in this context, the independent expert's concept of a development compact intends to give expression to some basic tenets of the interdependence of all human rights and national ownership of development strategies and development programmes, as well as the importance of international cooperation;

10. *Further recognizes* the need for a discussion on a suitable permanent follow-up mechanism for the implementation of the right to development in the future, in the Working Group;

11. *Stresses* the necessity of establishing, at the national level, an enabling legal, political, economic and social environment for the realization of the right to development, and emphasizes the importance of democratic, participatory, transparent and accountable governance, as well as the need for efficient national mechanisms, such as national human rights commissions, to ensure respect for civil, economic, cultural, political and social rights, without any distinction;

12. *Also stresses* the need to prevent, address and take effective action against corruption, at both the national and international levels, including by establishing a firm legal structure for eradicating corruption, and urges States to take all necessary measures to that end;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of the role of the State, civil society, free and independent media, national institutions, the private sector and other relevant institutions in the realization of the right to development, and also recognizes a need to continue discussion on this subject;

14. *Affirms* the role of women in the process of realization of the right to development, including their role as active actors in and beneficiaries of development, and that further actions in this context are needed to ensure the participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields in the realization of the right to development;

15. *Also affirms* the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective means to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate sustainable development, as well as the importance of equal rights and opportunities for women and men, including property rights for women and their access to bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, taking into account the best practices of microcredit in different parts of the world;

16. *Underlines* that in the process of the realization of the right to development, special attention should be given to persons belonging to minorities, whether national, ethnic, religious or linguistic, as well as to persons belonging to vulnerable groups, such as elderly people, indigenous people, persons facing discrimination on multiple grounds, Roma, migrants, persons with disabilities, children and persons infected with human immunodeficiency virus/acquired

immunodeficiency syndrome, and that such attention should have a gender perspective;

17. *Affirms* in this context that attention should also be given to the right to development of children, with special attention to the rights of the girl child;

18. *Acknowledges* the need to continue discussion on the role of civil society in the realization of the right to development and the role of national institutions in this respect;

19. *Reaffirms* the need for States to cooperate with each other in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development, recognizes the importance of the international community in promoting effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development, and also recognizes that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level;

20. *Reiterates* that the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide, that developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process, and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

21. *Recognizes*, while bearing in mind the existing efforts in this respect, that it is necessary to enhance efforts to consider and evaluate the impact on the enjoyment of human rights of international economic and financial issues, such as:

(a) International trade issues;

(b) Access to technology;

(c) Good governance and equity at the international level;

(d) Debt burden;

22. *Requests* the independent expert to prepare, in consultation with all relevant United Nations agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions, a preliminary study on the impact of those issues on the enjoyment of human rights, starting by analysing the existing efforts and means of assessing and evaluating such an impact, for consideration by the Working Group at its future sessions;

23. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, the international financial institutions and other relevant actors to collaborate with the independent expert in the fulfilment of his mandate and encourages further cooperation;

24. *Requests* the Working Group and the independent expert, to consider, as appropriate, the relevant economic and developmental outcomes of the international conferences, inter alia, the South Summit of the Group of Seventy-Seven held in Havana from 10 to 14 April 2000[4] and the follow-up thereto, in elaborating their recommendations for the implementation of the right to development;

25. *Decides* to continue consideration of the issue of the right to development, as a matter of priority, at its fifty-seventh session.

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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Algeria, Angola, Benin, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zambia: draft resolution

Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/107 of 4 December 2000, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/65 of 25 April 2001,[1]

Reaffirming the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law,

Affirming that the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights should continue to be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law as set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter and, inter alia, with full respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State,

Recalling the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

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Reaffirming that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[2] can be fully realized,

Reaffirming also the determination expressed in the Preamble to the Charter to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practice tolerance and good neighbourliness, and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Considering also that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Reaffirming that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Emphasizing that democracy is not only a political concept but also has economic and social dimensions,

Recognizing that democracy, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

Underlining the fact that it is an imperative for the international community to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people, and that only through broad and sustained efforts, based on common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable,

Stressing that efforts to make globalization fully inclusive and equitable must include policies and measures, at the global level, that correspond to the needs of developing countries and economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation,

Resolved, at the beginning of a new century and millennium, to take all measures within its power to secure a democratic and equitable international order,

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[2] Resolution 217 A (III).

1. *Affirms* that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order;

2. *Also affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order fosters the full realization of all human rights for all;

3. *Further affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order requires, inter alia, the realization of the following:

(a) The right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(b) The right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources;

(c) The right of every human person and all peoples to development;

(d) The right of all peoples to peace;

(e) The promotion of an international economic order based on equal participation in the decision-making process, interdependence, mutual interest, solidarity and cooperation among all States;

(f) Solidarity, as a fundamental value, by virtue of which global challenges must be managed in a way that distributes costs and burdens fairly in accordance with basic principles of equity and social justice and ensures that those who suffer or who benefit the least receive help from those who benefit the most;

(g) The promotion and consolidation of transparent, democratic, just and accountable international institutions in all areas of cooperation, in particular through the implementation of the principles of full and equal participation in their respective decision-making mechanisms;

(h) The principle of equitable regional and gender-balanced representation in the composition of the staff of the United Nations system;

(i) The promotion of a free, just, effective and balanced international information and communication order, based on international cooperation for the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the international flow of information, in particular, correcting the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries;

(j) Respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all, since this enhances cultural pluralism, contributes to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural backgrounds, advances the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fosters stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

(k) The entitlement of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment;

(l) The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth through enhanced international cooperation, in particular in economic, commercial and financial international relations;

(m) The enjoyment by everyone of ownership of the common heritage of mankind;

(n) The shared responsibility among the nations of the world for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security that should be exercised multilaterally;

4. *Stresses* the importance of preserving the rich and diverse nature of the international community of nations and peoples, as well as respect for national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

5. *Also stresses* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and reaffirms that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

6. *Reaffirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

7. *Recalls* the proclamation by the General Assembly of its determination to work urgently for the establishment of an international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations;[3]

8. *Reaffirms* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

9. *Urges* States to continue their efforts, through enhanced international cooperation, towards the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, the human rights treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to pay due attention, within their respective mandates, to the present resolution and to make contributions towards its implementation;

11. *Calls upon* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to build upon the issue of the promotion of a democratic and

[3] See resolution 3201 (S-VI).

equitable international order and to take into account the present resolution when convening any seminar, workshop or any other activity in relation to the issue of democracy;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and components, intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

13. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its fifty-seventh session under the agenda item entitled "Human rights questions".

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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Angola, Belarus, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of a humanitarian character

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in accordance with Article 56 of the Charter of the United Nations, all Member States have pledged themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55, including universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling also the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Reaffirming that the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms must be considered a priority objective of the United Nations in accordance with its purposes and principles, in particular the purpose of international cooperation, and that, in the framework of these purposes and principles, the promotion and protection of all human rights are a legitimate concern of the international community,

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Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples to an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Recognizing that the international community should devise ways and means to remove current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world, as well as continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights,

Reaffirming that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations and that human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings, the protection and promotion of such rights and freedoms being the first responsibility of Governments,

Reaffirming also that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Reaffirming further the various articles of the Charter setting out the respective powers and functions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, as the paramount framework for the achievement of the purposes of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations under other important instruments of international law, in particular those of international human rights and humanitarian law,

Taking into account that, in accordance with Article 103 of the Charter, in the event of a conflict between the obligations of the Members of the United Nations under the Charter and their obligations under any other international agreement, their obligations under the Charter shall prevail,

1. *Affirms* the solemn commitment of all States to enhance international cooperation in the field of human rights and in the solution to international problems of a humanitarian character in full compliance with the Charter of the United Nations, inter alia, by the strict observance of all the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 thereof;

2. *Stresses* the vital role of the work of United Nations and regional arrangements, acting consistently with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter, in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as in solving international problems of a humanitarian character, and affirms that all States in these activities must fully comply with the principles set forth in Article 2 of the Charter, in particular respecting the sovereign equality of all States and refraining from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or acting in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations shall promote universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion;

4. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate fully, through constructive dialogue, in order to ensure the promotion and protection of all human rights for all and in promoting peaceful solutions to international problems of a humanitarian character and, in their actions towards that purpose, to comply strictly with the principles and norms of international law, inter alia, by fully respecting international human rights and humanitarian law;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, organs, bodies and other components of the United Nations system, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

6. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

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Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Peru, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that among the purposes of the United Nations are those of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and taking other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as well as achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Desirous of achieving further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that such international cooperation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights[2] and other relevant instruments,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

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Deeply convinced that United Nations action in this field should be based not only on a profound understanding of the broad range of problems existing in all societies but also on full respect for the political, economic and social realities of each of them, in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and for the basic purpose of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,

Recalling its previous resolutions in this regard,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, as affirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[3]

Affirming the importance of the objectivity, independence and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and on countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

Underlining the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States, in cooperation with the Organization, to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the development of further international cooperation in this field, on the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[2] and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as a legitimate concern of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

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[3] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

6. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international cooperation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Stresses*, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to take duly into account the present resolution and to consider further proposals for the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] and requests the Secretary-General to invite Member States to present practical proposals and ideas that would contribute to the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights, through the promotion of international cooperation based on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and to submit a comprehensive report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

12. *Decides* to consider this matter at its fifty-seventh session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

[4] A/56/292 and Add.1.

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Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in electoral processes as an important element for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purpose of the United Nations to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling also its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, by which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the right to self-determination, by virtue of which all peoples can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Recognizing that the principles enshrined in Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the respect of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of any State, should be respected in the holding of elections,

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Recognizing also the richness and diversity of democratic political systems and models of free and fair electoral processes in the world, based on national and regional particularities and various backgrounds,

Stressing the responsibility of States in ensuring ways and means to facilitate full and effective popular participation in their electoral processes,

Recognizing the contribution made by the United Nations of electoral assistance provided to numerous States upon their request,

Reaffirming the solemn commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in accordance with the Charter, other instruments relating to human rights, and international law,

Welcoming the commitment of all Member States, expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] to work collectively for more inclusive political processes allowing genuine participation by all citizens in all countries,

1. *Reaffirms* that all peoples have the right of self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status, and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right, in accordance with the provision of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reiterates* that periodic, fair and free elections are important elements for the promotion and protection of human rights;

3. *Reaffirms* the right of peoples to determine methods and to establish institutions regarding electoral processes and that, consequently, States should ensure the necessary mechanisms and means to facilitate full and effective popular participation in those processes;

4. *Also reaffirms* the importance of respecting the free development of national electoral processes, and the need to avoid any act that is intended to sway the results of such processes, by virtue of the principles established in the Charter and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

5. *Further reaffirms* that United Nations electoral assistance is provided at the specific request of the Member State concerned;

6. *Calls upon* all States to refrain from financing political parties or other organizations in any other State in a way that is contrary to the principles of the Charter and that undermines the legitimacy of its electoral processes;

7. *Condemns* any act of armed aggression or threat or use of force against peoples, their elected Governments or their legitimate leaders;

8. *Reaffirms* that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government and that this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections, which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

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[1] See resolution 55/2.